Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00165 181010Z ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 DLOS-09 TRSE-00

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UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 165

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIS, MR

SUBJECT: OCTOPUS FISHING

REF: (A) 77 STATE 304827, (B) 77 NOUAKCHOTT 2737

- 1. INQUIRIES AT LOCAL OUTLETS LIKELY TO HANDLE OCTOPUS AND CNAVAS OF LOCAL GROCERY SHELVES INDICATE THAT PRODUCT IS NOT SOLD ON COMMERCIAL MARKET IN NOUAKCHOTT.
- 2. THE CAP BLANC AREA OF NOUADHIBOU IS CONSIDERED A PRIME BRRDING GROUND FOR OCTOPUS AND 13,854 TONS WERE LANDED AND FROZEN IN 1974 FOR EXPORT AT NOUADHIBOU FOR SALE PRICE OF 24 TO 27 US CENTS PER KILO. GREEK SHIPS ARE SAID TO SPECIALIZE IN FISHING FOR OCTOPUS, BUT NO ECENT DATA IS AVAILABLE,AND INFORMED SOURCES REPORT THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE CATCH IS PROBABLY NOT EVEN LANDED IN MAURITANIA. SOME OCTOPUS MAY BE SOLD IN NOUAKCHOTT FOR USE AS BAIT BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT IS IS CONSUMED MY MAURITANIANS.
- 3. MAURITANIANS HAVE INCREASED THEIR SURVEILLANCE OF LOCAL FISHING WATERS RECENTLY, AND WOULD LIKE TO ENOORCE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS STIPULATING THAT FIXED PERCENTAGES OF THE CATCH BE PROCESSED AT NOUADHIBOU. REPORT ON FISHING RESTRICTIONS FOLLOWS (SEPTEL).

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PAGE 02 NOUAKC 00165 181010Z

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